

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 1-7.

Amend the following:

8. (original) A process for the production of *ortho*-aminophenols from nitroarenes which comprises transforming said nitroarene to the corresponding hydroxylaminoarene with a metal catalyst and transforming said hydroxylaminoarene to said *ortho*-aminophenol using a biocatalyst consisting essentially of a mutase enzyme that converts said hydroxylaminoarene to said *ortho*-aminophenol, and recovering a fraction containing said *ortho*-aminophenol.
9. (original) The process of claim 8 wherein said metal is zinc.
10. (currently amended) The proces of claim 8 wherein said mutase enzyme is HabA cloned from *Pseudomonas pseudoalcaligenes* strain JS45 and expressed in recombinant bacteria.
11. (currently amended) The proces of claim 8 wherein said mutase enzyme is HabB cloned from *Pseudomonas pseudoalcaligenes* strain JS45 and expressed in recombinant bacteria.